

I Love Series: I Love God

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – November 1, 2015

[John 21:1-17](#)

1 Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Tiberias. It happened this way: 2 Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. 3 "I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. 4 Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. 5 He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered. 6 He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. 7 Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. 8 The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. 9 When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread. 10 Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." 11 Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. 12 Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. 13 Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. 14 This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead. 15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." 16 Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." 17 The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

We love God because...

1. HE LOVED US FIRST

[1 John 4:19](#)

We love because he first loved us.

[John 21:17](#) [Jesus said] "Do you love me?" "Feed my sheep."

[Mark 12:30](#) (Great commandment)

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'

We love God because...

2. HE HAS SHOWN US MERCY & GRACE

MERCY: Not getting what our actions deserve

GRACE: Getting what we don't deserve

[Matt 26:31-35](#)

31 Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, ..." 33 Peter replied, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will." 34 ... Jesus [said], "this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." 35 But Peter declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the other disciples said the same.

[John 20:19](#)

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

Loving God...

3. RESULTS IN FULL NETS

[John 21:6](#)

[Jesus] said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some."

[John 20:21](#) "... As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

[John 21:17](#) "Do you love me?" "Feed my sheep."